

Patent Application: 09/805,657
Docket No: P14486US

Remarks

Claims Allowance

Applicants thank the Examiner for only objecting to claims 2-4, 6-15, and 17-22, and for the indication that these claims would be allowable if re-written in independent format.

Claims Rejections: 35 U.S.C. §102(e)

Claims 1, 5, and 16 stand rejected under section 102(e) of 35 U.S.C. for being allegedly anticipated by Gupta et al. (US Patent 6,226,516).

Applicants have included the patentable limitations of claim 4 into the independent claim 1, which is therefore submitted herein as patentable in view of the Examiner's indications provided in the outstanding Office action.

Likewise, Applicants have included the patentable limitations of claim 8 into the independent claim 5, which is therefore also submitted as patentable in view of the same indications.

Finally, Applicants have included the patentable limitations of claim 20 into the independent claim 16, which is therefore also submitted as patentable in view of the same indications.

Therefore, Applicants respectfully submit that all claims are in favorable condition for allowance.

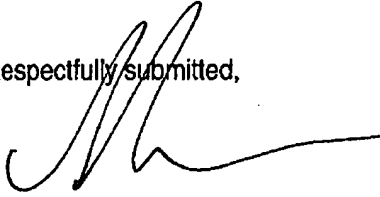
Conclusion

Claims 2-4, 6-15, and 17-22 were indicated as allowable if re-written in independent format. Applicants followed the Examiner's suggestion and amended the independent claims so as to include the patentable limitations of dependent claims. Therefore, in light of the present amendment, all pending claims 1-3, 5-7, 9-19, and 21-22 are herein submitted as being in favorable condition for allowance.

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In the Examiner finds out that a prosecution of the present invention would be facilitated by telephone interview, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned, Alex Nicolaescu, at telephone number (514) 345- 7900 extension number 2596.

Respectfully submitted,



Alex Nicolaescu
USPTO Reg. Number 47,253